



BUNDLE OF COMPROMISES: HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

PART ONE

Historical Graffiti:

In Part 1, a boy finishes the phrase “Great Awakening” on a brick wall. If you look, there are other historical references on this brick wall. In addition, “*Historical graffiti*” appears in other scenes throughout the production.

You too can create “*historical graffiti*” in your classroom giving students an opportunity to write historical concepts, comments related to the period of history you are studying in the class. First, buy some contact paper with brick design on it. Next, find a wall in the classroom you can use; it can be part of a wall. Do not peel off the backing, exposing the sticky surface, but simply staple or push pin the brick contact paper to the wall. Have markers available.

Remind students, the object is not to simply write down

a fact, but demonstrate your understanding through a well-written comment. The convention has dragged on for 4 months without any news. A student can write: “I have the right to know what goes on at the convention!” “What is going on at the convention?” “What are the delegates plotting?”

MATERIALS: Brick pattern contact paper, markers, stick pins or staples

PART TWO

Bag Puppets:

In Part II, the states from the song “Firm League of Friendship” are represented as bag puppets. Students can make their own state bag puppets. Have students use their creativity to incorporate what a state grows/manufactures in the features of the puppet. For example, if the state is known for shipping you could make a sail as a hat. If the state is known for fruit trees then give the state bag puppet an apple nose. If you look, we did this in our production.

Below is list of some of the 13 states’ products as well as website with excellent detail for constructing a bag puppet and the materials you will need.

SOURCES FOR BAG PUPPET CONSTRUCTION:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/puppets/paperbag/>

<http://www.dlt-kids.com/Crafts/circus/mclown.html>

STATE PRODUCTS:

NEW ENGLAND STATES (fishing, shipping):

NH: Trees/lumber, Shipbuilding, fishing

MA: Shipbuilding, Cod, Printing, Rum Distilling, Ironworks, Land Claims

CT: Metal Buttons, Musket making, Webster Dictionary, fishing, Shipbuilding, assembly line, Land Claims

RI: RI money, Rum Distilling, Whaling, Molasses, Shipbuilding, Shipping slaves

MIDDLE STATES (bread basket):

NY: NY money, Ironworks, Wheat, Chickens, Land Claims

NJ: NJ money, Ironworks, Wheat, fruit trees, Hogs, Chickens, Corn

PA: PA. money, Ironworks (pigiron—anvils, hammers),

Wheat, Flour, Corn

DE: Wheat, Trees/lumber. Flour milling, Shipbuilding, Tanning

SOUTHERN STATES(planter):

MD. Plantations/slaves, Rice, Grain, Shipping Slaves. Tobacco

VA. Tobacco, Land claims, Plantations/slaves, Wheat, Shipping slaves

NC. Land claims NC money, Rice, Plantations/slaves, Tobacco, Indigo

SC. Plantations/Slaves, Cotton, Tobacco, Indigo, SC money, rice, Land Claims

GA. Plantations/slaves, Land claims , GA. Money, rice, Cotton, Sugar, Silk

Family Mobile:

In the production, we present kids stating the varying times they go to bed, do their homework, chores. Have students brainstorm other categories beside the ones stated in the production, then, have students create a mobile of these categories and then string the corresponding answers below.

MATERIALS: a wire clothes hanger, string, paper of some thickness, scissors.

PART THREE:

Delegate Trading Cards:

As shown in the production, students can make their own delegate trading cards. They can find images of many of the delegates on the web that can be used for the front of the card, or they can draw the delegate. On the back, they will list researched information about the delegate. This information can be typed/handwritten and cut to fit the card. The information categories we have suggested are: *delegate name, state, age, occupation, and note of interest.* You can use these categories or create new categories.

MATERIALS: stock cards, glue, scissors, computer/printer, fine pens, drawing pencils. Option: laminate the cards

Delegate T-shirts or Sashes:

Delegate T-shirt:

As you observed in the production delegates at the convention were portrayed wearing sashes that represented their self-interests. If you don't want to create sashes then delegate t-shirts will do the trick. Students chose a delegate, research the delegate, and upon a white t-shirt can write, using a fabric pen, what they determine to be the delegate's self interest.

***MATERIALS:* White or light-colored t-shirts and felt or fabric pens.**

Delegate Sash:

Using either paper or light-colored fabric such as felt or cotton to make a sash, you then have students print the delegate self-interest onto the sash using a felt marker. Or, if you are industrious, using a computer/printer and transfer paper, you can type the delegate self-interest using *historic* font. *Make sure you type the letters of the words backwards on the computer.* Then, print it out on the transfer paper and iron the words onto the fabric. There are instructions for how to transfer text on the package of transfer paper.

***MATERIALS:* Fabric or paper, felt/fabric pens. For transfer method you will need (in addition to the fabric or paper for the sash) an iron, computer/printer and transfer paper.**

BONUS SCENE:

Balance and Check Game Show: How to make the triangle

Note: Below is one way to make the triangle for the game. Please feel free to follow, change or ignore. Also, refer to the visual of the triangle in the *Balance and Check Game Show*.

You will need to make three separate segments of the triangle. Here is how to make one segment; repeat the process to make all three. Cut ribbon or fabric so that is 6 inches wide and 3-5 feet in length. Next fold the fabric over the “spine” consisting of two, thin flexible acrylic rods. This will create a 3-inch channel. Now, seal the edges of the segment using a hot-glue gun, sewing or stapling the edges. One segment is complete. Repeat the process to create, in total, three segments of equal length. Once all three segments are completed you can connect the ends of each segment to form a triangle using safety pins or by sewing the segments.

***MATERIALS:* 9-15 feet of ribbon/fabric, 6 flexible acrylic rods (1/4 in. outside diameter, 1/8 in. interior diameter), scissors, and either hot glue, staples, or a sewing machine.**

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